

Name of Policy:	Nut Allergy Awareness policy
Applicable to:	Whole School
Effective date:	September 2020
Date of next review:	September 2022

NUT ALLERGY AWARENESS

NCBIS Mission Statement

To provide a learning environment that supports academic achievement whilst promoting personal growth through the attributes of the IB Learner profile, within a caring international community committed to the traditional values of honesty, courtesy, respect, integrity and fair play.

Purpose and Scope of Policy

The purpose of this guidance is to:

- Raise awareness about allergies in our school community
- Ensure we provide a safe learning environment for all
- Give assurance to those children/families with severe allergies that we take the management of these seriously

As a school we aim to be as nut-free as we can. It is impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that no nuts will be brought onto the premises but we will strive to minimise this risk as much as we can.

Management of risk to those with severe nut allergies

We ask that all members of the school community manage the day-to-day risk to those with severe allergies in the following ways:

- Parents and carers are requested not to send food to school that contains nuts or nut-based products, to include all types of nuts, peanut butter, Nutella, cereal/chocolate bars and any other food containing nuts.
- Staff will be alert to any obvious signs of nuts being brought in, but they will not inspect all food items brought into school.
- Children that do bring in food that contains nuts or nut-based products should be offered an alternative where possible, by making use of the school canteen. Food containing nuts should be unopened and sent home for later consumption. A reminder letter should be issued to the family concerned. (Appendix 1)
- If any actual nuts are found, they will be bagged up and sent home and this child will be asked to wash their hands before going out to play. A reminder letter should be issued to the family concerned. (Appendix 1)
- Children should not share food.
- Children will be asked to wash hands before and after eating.
- Staff are trained in understanding and dealing with anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) and will use this training as the need arises.
- The school canteen will ensure all food items on sale are nut-free.
- Staff will be alert to 'special occasions' e.g. end of term parties, Christmas Bazaar, International Day and will issue reminders to organisers of such events of the need to avoid nuts.

Awareness raising

Awareness of this guidance will be promoted by:

- A copy of this guidance being made available to all parents and carers.
- Staff being informed and provided with training opportunities.
- Children being informed via teachers, teaching assistants and support staff.
- Parents being informed during 'Meet the Teacher' sessions
- Classrooms, canteen tables are labelled with nut-free stickers or photos
- Stickers pasted into planners at the start of the new academic year
- Publication of this guidance on the school website.
- Letters to parents at the start of the academic year and termly reminders
- More specific letters to parents in the year group of any children with anaphylaxis
- Information on food allergies included in admission documentation for new families.

Appendix 1- Letter to be sent home

Dear Parents / Carers,

Please can we take this opportunity to remind everyone that our school has a 'no nuts policy'.

We have several students in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy and therefore, in order to keep our students safe and healthy, NCBIS has a 'no nuts policy.' Foods that should not be included in children's lunch boxes are those which contain nuts and traces of nuts including;

- Sesame seed rolls
- Nutella
- Muesli or cereal bars
- Biscuits
- Peanut butter

The food does not have to be eaten by the individual as a reaction may occur with any contact to the skin.

How can you help?

- Include only nut-free food products in snacks and lunches to be brought into school.
- Talk to your child about nut allergies.
- Talk to any other family members or helpers who may prepare packed lunches for your child to explain our request.
- Remind your child that food sharing or swapping is not permitted in school.
- Encourage your child to wash their hands before and after eating to remove food residues which may transfer (good general hygiene!).

As part of our 'no nuts policy' we do check children's lunches to make sure the rules are being followed. Today, your child brought in a nut based food item in their lunch box.

If your child has a nut allergy could you please inform the school and their teacher as soon as possible so that we can ensure your child does not come into contact with any triggers.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in making NCBIS a safe and healthy place for all of our pupils.

Kind regards,

Pastoral Team
NCBIS